

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-23, 25-37, 39-42 are pending in the application.

Claim Objections

Claims 25 and 29 have been corrected with regard to their dependency.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 8, 15, 26, 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Osanai* (US 5,632,125).

Claim 1 has been amended by including the features of allowable claim 9 relating to special features of the holding section. The added features of claim 9 are not disclosed or suggested by *Osanai*.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claim 16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Osanai* (US 5,632,125). Claim 16 has been made dependent from claim 1.

Claim 33 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Osanai* (US 5,632,125) in view of *Maroney* (US 3,055,460). This claim depends from claim 1 and is believed to be allowable as a dependent claim.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 22, 23, 31, 32, 37, 39-42 are allowed. Claims 22, 23, 31, 32 have been rewritten as dependent claims of claim 1. Claims 37 and 39-42 are unchanged (with the exception of correcting an obvious error in claim 37).

Claims 4, 6, 9-14, 17-21, 28, 30, 34-36 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The allowable subject matter of claim 9 has been added to claim 1 so that claim 1, now having the added limitation in regard to the holding sections, should be allowable.

Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form but is now directed to a structural element system also. As the post section is part of the structural element system and the features of claim 6 are directed to special features of the post section, the claim 6 as rewritten should also be allowable.

Claims 3, 4, 10-23, 25-32 have all been rewritten as dependent claims of claim 1

and are believed to be allowable.

Claim 34 has been rewritten as an independent claim and should thus be allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any further objections or suggestions, the undersigned would appreciate a phone call or **e-mail** from the examiner to discuss appropriate amendments to place the application into condition for allowance.

Authorization is herewith given to charge any fees or any shortages in any fees required during prosecution of this application and not paid by other means to Patent and Trademark Office deposit account 50-1199.

Respectfully submitted on September 6, 2006,

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